



## Math-Based Decisions in Air Traffic Control

### Student Workbook F

- Resolving Air Traffic Conflicts by **Changing Speed**
  - **3 planes**, each at the same starting speed
  - Simulator problems 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 3-6



- Simulator at: [www.atcsim.nasa.gov](http://www.atcsim.nasa.gov)



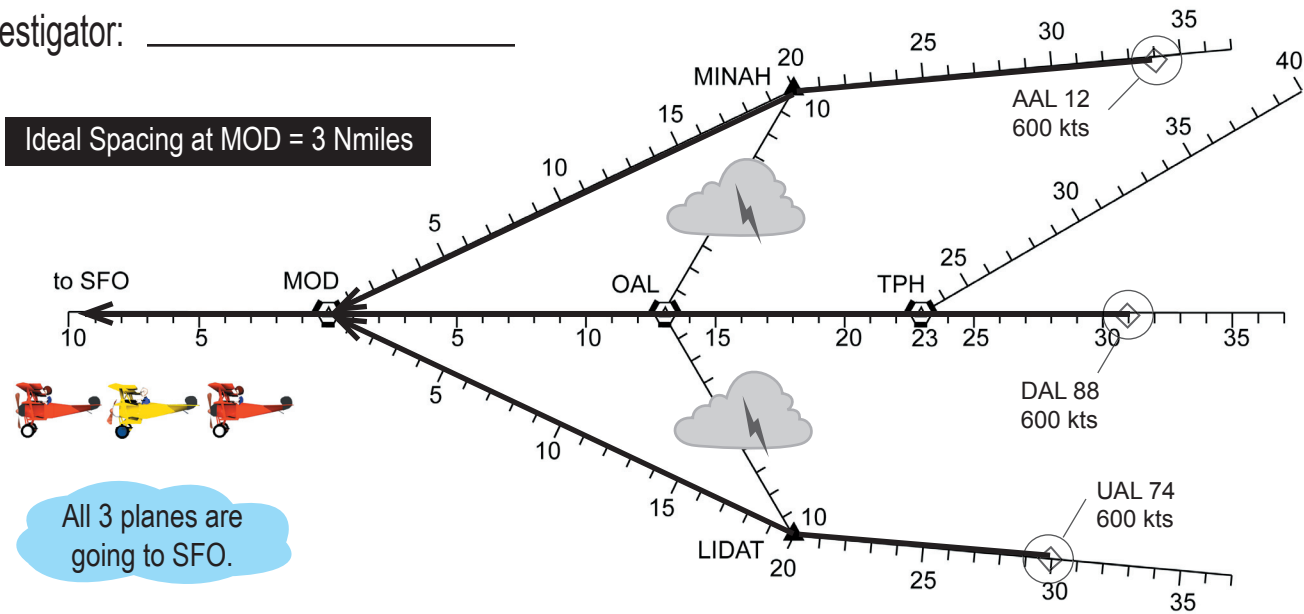
American 12, reduce speed to three-six-zero knots.

Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

An Airspace Systems  
Program Product



Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_



- ⌘ If we need to change spacing, we must change speed. The alternate routes are closed.



To find the arrival order of the 3 planes at MOD, fill in the table.

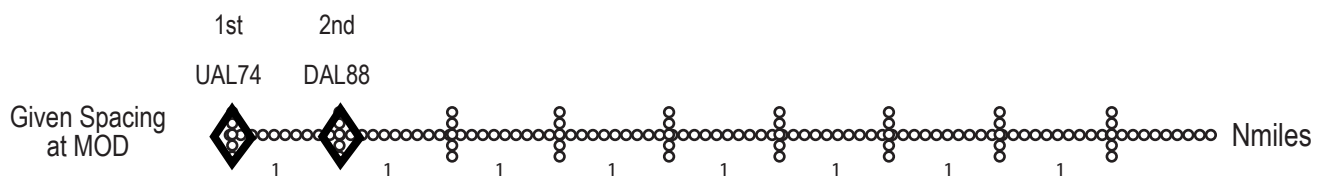
Plane	AAL12	DAL88	UAL74
Distance to MOD, Nmi			
Arrival Order			

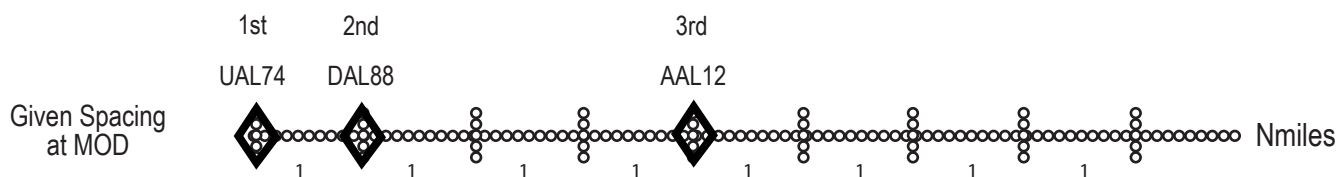
It helps to picture  
the arrival order and  
spacing at MOD!

- ✎ To picture the arrival order and spacing of each plane, we use a number line.
- ✎ We start with the first plane to arrive and work back to the last plane.



Use a  to show the order and spacing for the 3rd plane. Label your  with "AAL12".





- Next we determine the additional spacing needed to get Ideal Spacing at MOD.

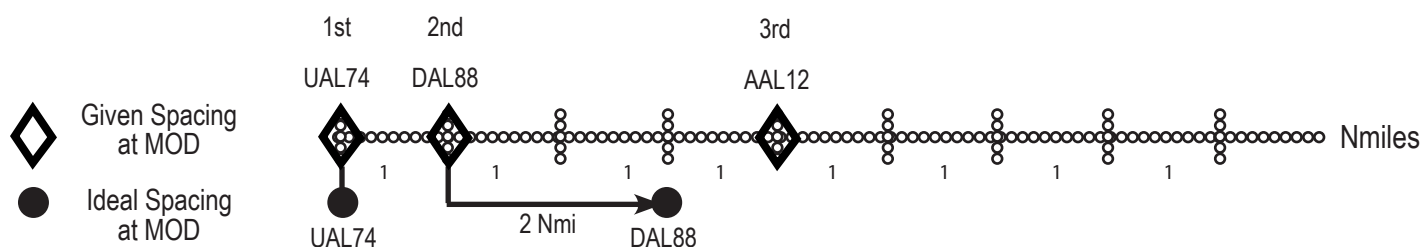


To get Ideal Spacing between the first and second plane, how much additional spacing do you need?

11

Nmiles

- ⌘ We use an arrow to show the additional spacing needed for the 2nd plane.  
We picture the new spacing with a ● at the end of the arrow. We label the ● with the plane's call sign.



4

Now, how much additional spacing do you need between the second and third plane to get Ideal Spacing? (Be sure to use the NEW position of the second plane.)

10

Nmiles

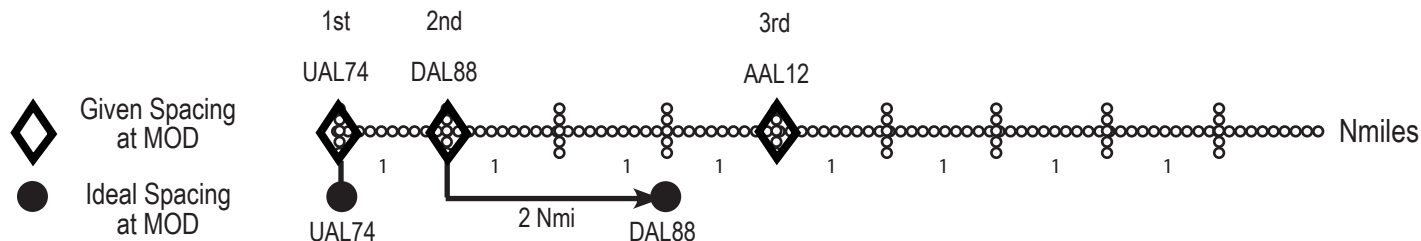


Use an arrow to show the additional spacing for the third plane (AAL12). Put a ● at the end of the arrow to show the new spacing. Label the ● with “AAL12”.



What do I change to get this spacing?

**Continue to Next Page**



Now that you know the additional spacing you need, what speed changes will you make? Begin with the second plane (DAL88)..

6

How much will you slow the DAL88 speed?  Kts

What will the new speed be?  Kts

7

How many minutes will it take to get the additional spacing?  Mins

A 60-knot difference in speed will cause a 1 Nmile difference in spacing **each minute**.

8

Will you get the additional spacing needed before MOD?

☐ Yes

☐ No

540 kts = 9 Nmi/Min

DAL88, I'll speed you back up as soon as you get Ideal Spacing!



Roger! I don't want to fall further behind.

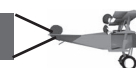
9

Now what speed changes will you make for the third plane, AAL12? Fill in the table.

	Additional Spacing	New Speed	Time Until Ideal Spacing	At or Before MOD?
AAL12	<input type="text"/> Nmi	<input type="text"/> Kts	<input type="text"/> Mins	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

If Yes, congratulations!

End of Worksheet



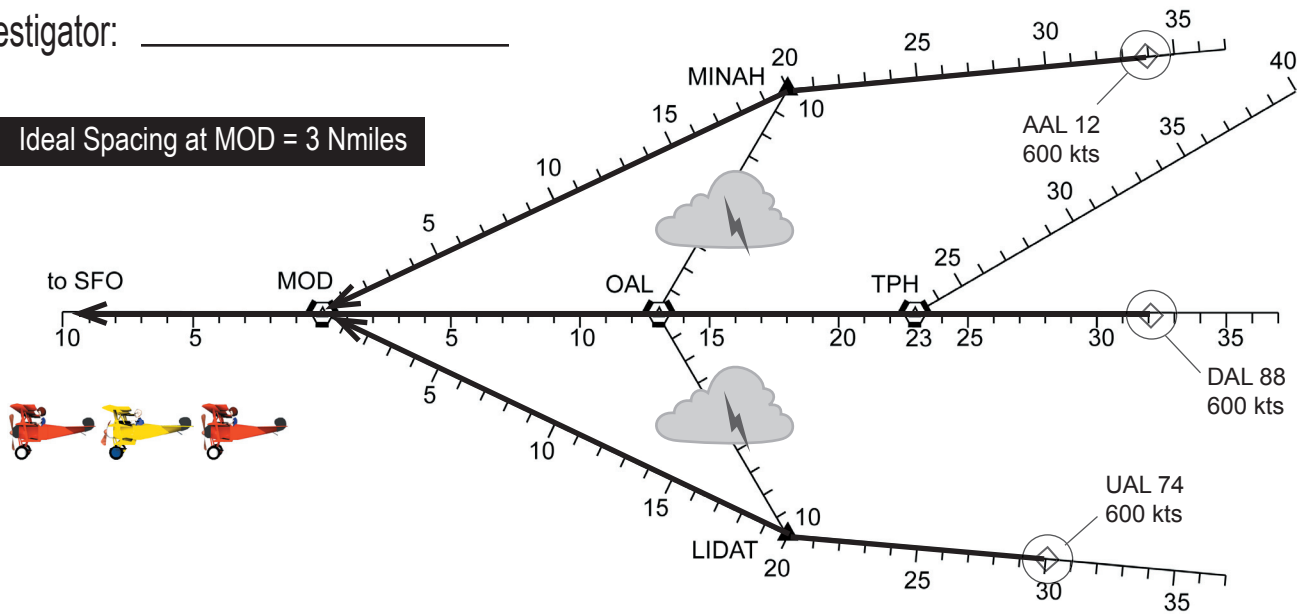


## Problem 3-4



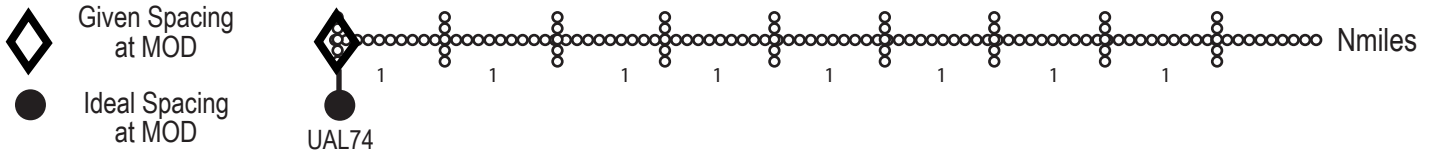
Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ideal Spacing at MOD = 3 Nmiles**



1

First, plot each plane's given spacing at MOD with an . Then plot the Ideal Spacings with a . Label each symbol with the plane's call sign. Use an arrow to show the additional spacing needed.



2

What speed changes will you make to get Ideal Spacing at MOD? Fill in the table.

Order	Call Sign	Additional Spacing	New Speed	Time Until Ideal Spacing	At or Before MOD?
2nd	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> Nmi	<input type="text"/> Kts	<input type="text"/> Min	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3rd	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> Nmi	<input type="text"/> Kts	<input type="text"/> Min	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

If Yes, congratulations!



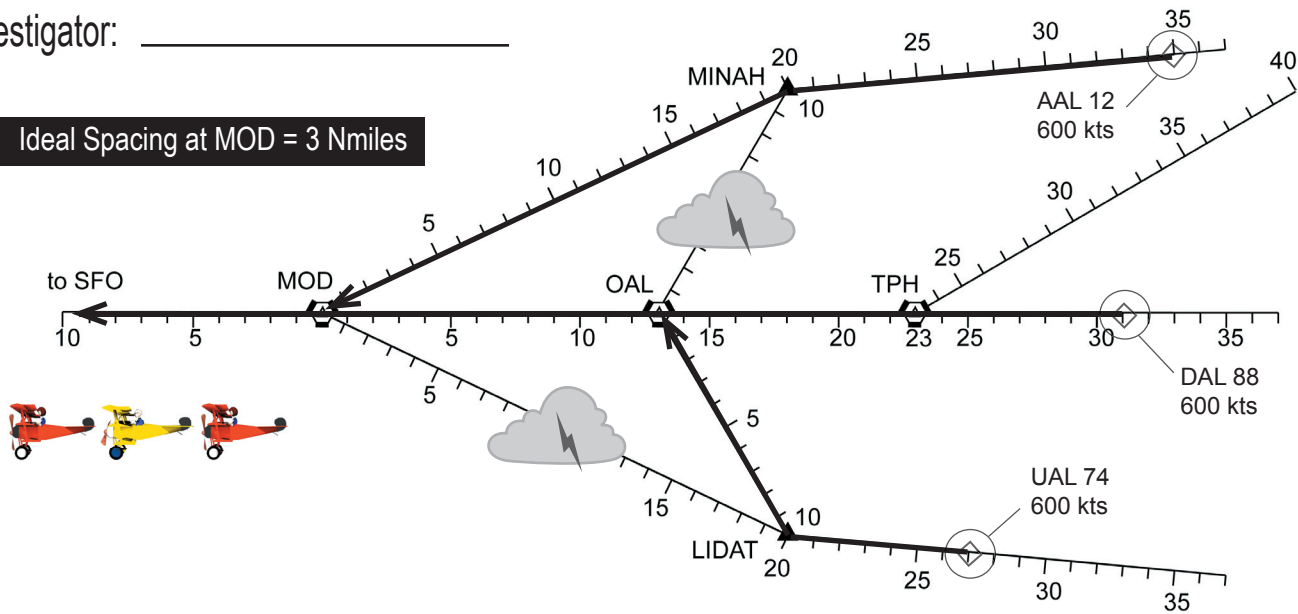


## Problem 3-5



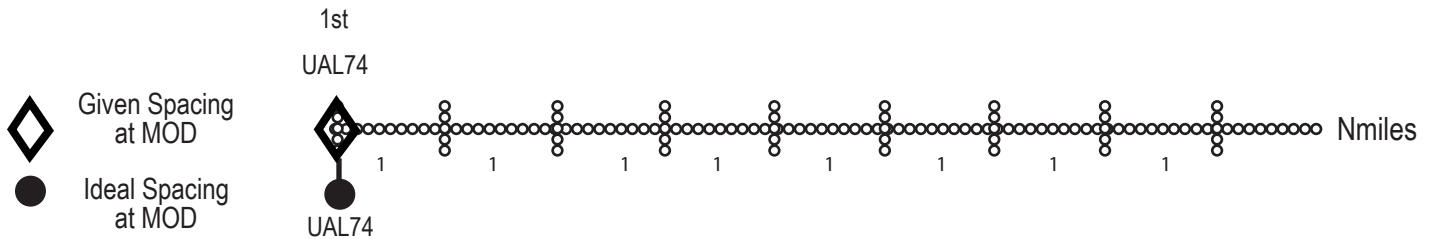
Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

Ideal Spacing at MOD = 3 Nmiles



1

First, plot each plane's given spacing at MOD with an . Then plot the Ideal Spacings with a . Label each symbol with the plane's call sign. Use an arrow to show the additional spacing needed.



2

What speed changes will you make to get Ideal Spacing at MOD? Fill in the table.

Order	Call Sign	Additional Spacing	New Speed	Time Until Ideal Spacing	At or Before MOD?
2nd	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> Nmi	<input type="text"/> Kts	<input type="text"/> Min	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3rd	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> Nmi	<input type="text"/> Kts	<input type="text"/> Min	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

3

At the new speeds, will UAL74 and DAL88 have at least **minimum** spacing (2 Nmi) at **OAL**? ☐ No ☐ Yes

4

If No, how will you redo your speed changes?

End of Worksheet



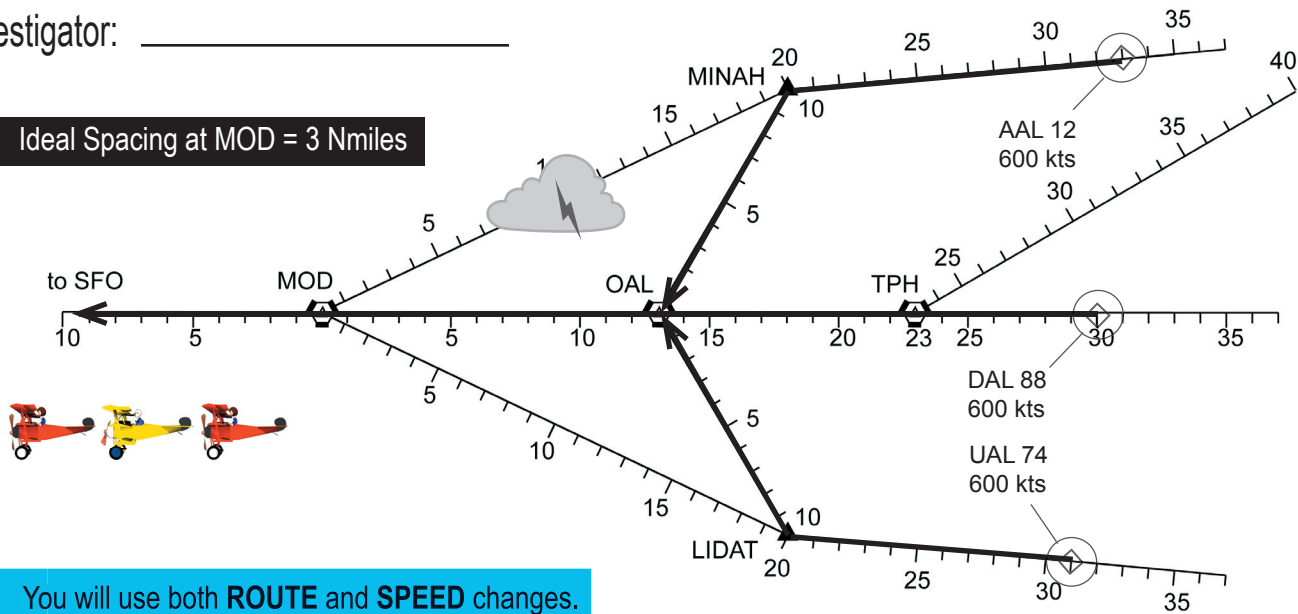


## Problem 3-6



Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_



Ideal Spacing at MOD = 3 Nmiles

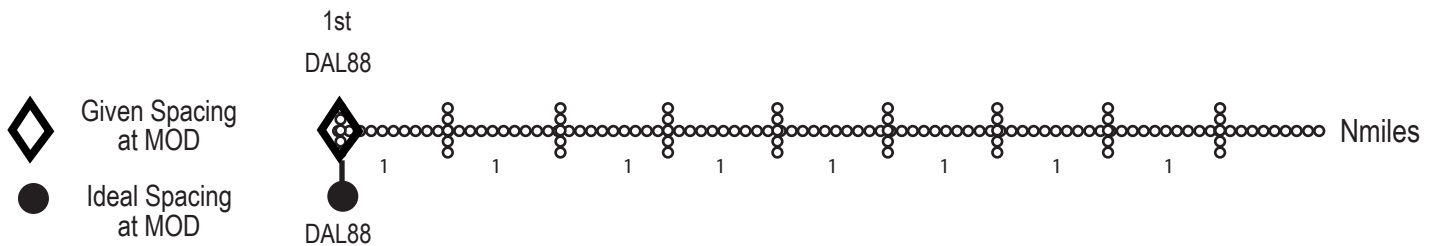


You will use both **ROUTE** and **SPEED** changes.

Remember, you need Ideal Spacing at MOD.



First, plot each plane's given spacing at MOD with an . Then plot the Ideal Spacings with a . Label each symbol with the plane's call sign. Use an arrow to show the additional spacing needed.

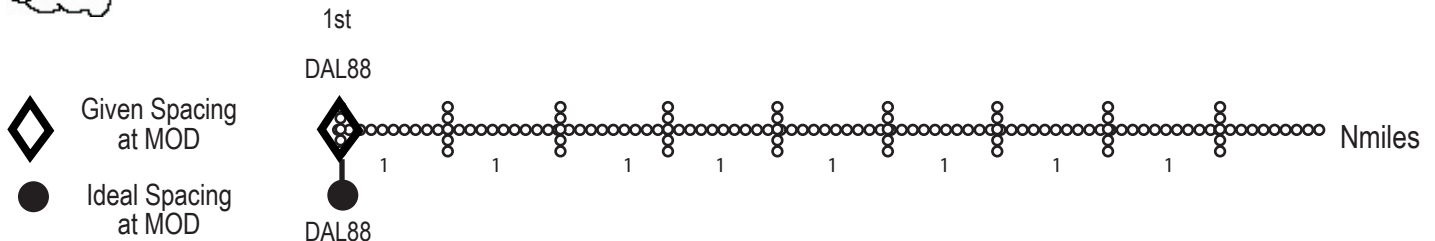


For the second plane, what route change and speed change will give Ideal Spacing at MOD?

Changes: Route:  Speed:  Kts



For the route change, replot the *new* given and Ideal Spacings on the following line **AND** on the sector plot above.



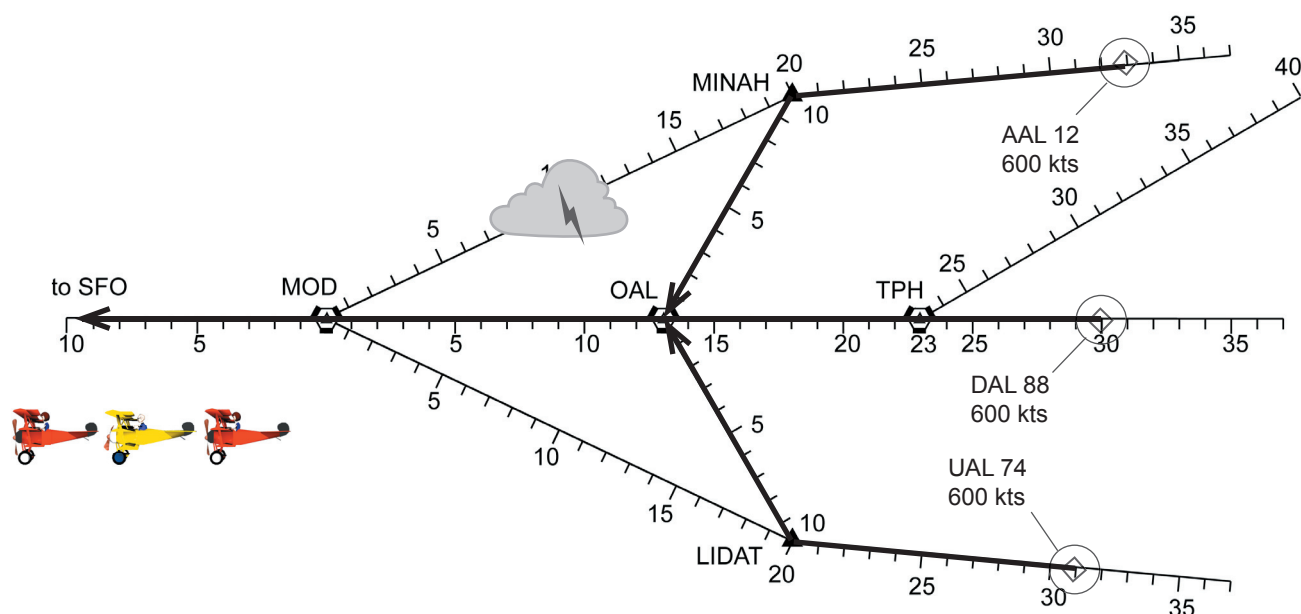
For the speed change, after how many minutes will you speed up the plane to 600 kts to maintain ideal separation at MOD?

Minutes



Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

## Problem 3-6 (Continued)



**CAUTION** Be sure to mark the route and speed changes you have made on the above sector plot.

5

For the third plane, describe your changes (if any) to get Ideal Spacing at MOD.

Changes: Route:  Speed:  Kts

6

If you changed speed, after how many minutes will you speed up the plane to 600 kts to maintain ideal separation at MOD?  Minutes

7

With your new speeds, will AA12 and DAL88 have at least the 2 Nmi **Minimum** Separation at **OAL**? ☐ No ☐ Yes

8

If No, how will you redo your route or speed changes?


You are now  
cleared for takeoff!



End of Worksheet

